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EDITORIAL

## ENDLESS CHAIN OF BLOODLETTING.

By DANIEL DE LEON

**J**ERRE DELCARTE, a Brooklyn man who shot himself in the knee accidentally, and whose leg had to be amputated on account of the blood poisoning that set in, was found after the operation to be in so low a state of vitality that the doctors concluded his life could not be saved except by the injection of good strong blood into his veins. To this end an advertisement was inserted in the papers for men willing to part with a portion of their blood to Delcarte for a consideration. Forty men presented themselves in response to the call. Of the forty only one, Emiluel Mortul, young bricklayer out of a job, was found satisfactory. All the others were found to be anemic.

These facts are sufficient “facts in court” for some solid pondering.

Delcarte, being run down, he can not live without an infusion of good blood. Thirty-nine men, being found so little better than Delcarte, they are themselves in need of some blood-infusion. That many times thirty-nine men were as willing to be bloodlet as the thirty-nine who offered themselves and were rejected, and that these others are no better off than the thirty-nine, is quite certain. Quite certain also is the belief that many more are even below the vitality of the rejected thirty-nine. If, then, blood-infusion is necessary to save Delcarte, it is likewise necessary to save a whole lot of others. The good strong blood must come from well-fed, robust individuals. Emiluel Mortul passed muster, although just now out of a job. Had he been out of a job a longer period, he would himself have been in need of some infusion. The plight that Emiluel Mortul would have been in is the plight of hundreds of thousands in the land, and Emiluel himself will “get there” eventually if not sooner. Consequently—

The young and robust workingman with a job will have to become the source of good blood to keep others alive. These young and robust exceptions will have to be

bloodlet for the benefit of others; these others will then start in good and strong but will have to be bloodlet back again to keep the original source in repair—and so in endless chain, or in a vicious circle.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
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[slpns@slp.org](mailto:slpns@slp.org)